Claims:

1. A distributed location register comprising:

one or more communication service registers each being associated with a particular type of communication service and containing communication parameters for a number of communication entities; and

a protocol interface operably coupled to the one or more communication service registers, the protocol interface facilitating accessing or updating, responsive to a request by at least one of the communication entities, one or more of the communication parameters in a selected one or more of the communication service registers.

2. The distributed location register of claim 1, wherein the one or more communication service registers are directly coupled to the protocol interface.

3. The distributed location register of claim 1, wherein the one or more communication service registers are coupled to the protocol interface through a communication network.

4. The distributed location register of claim 3, wherein the communication network comprises one of: a public switched telephone network, the Internet, a satellite communication infrastructure and an asynchronous transfer mode communication infrastructure.

5. The distributed location register of claim 1, wherein the types of communication service associated with the communication service registers are selected from the group consisting of: GSM telephony services, CDMA telephony

services, mobile data services, dispatch services, video services, multimedia services, packet data services and general telephony services.

6. The distributed location register of claim 1, wherein the communication parameters comprise, for each communication service register of a particular type, a number of authorized services of the particular type that are available for affiliated communication entities.

7. The distributed location register of claim 1, wherein each of the one or more communication service registers includes at least one of: a database partition, a separate database, and a combination thereof.

8. The distributed location register of claim 1 comprising one of a home location register and visitor location register.

9. The distributed location register of claim 1, wherein the request further comprises an operational request for one of: service management operation and maintenance, a visitor location register location, visitor location register supplemental service, system update for a visitor location register, call routing, and fault recovery.

10. The distributed location register of claim 1, each of the communication service registers comprising an input/output port and a processing circuit.

11. The distributed location register of claim 1 wherein the protocol interface facilitates accessing or updating one or more sets of communication parameters in a single one of the communication service registers.

12. The distributed location register of claim 1 wherein the protocol interface facilitates accessing or updating one or more sets of communication parameters in a plurality of the communication service registers.

13. The distributed location register of claim 1 comprising a home location register.

14. The distributed location register of claim 1 comprising a visitor location register.

15. A method comprising the steps of:

receiving, by a protocol interface, a request from a communication entity;

identifying a communication service register storing communication parameters associated with a particular type of communication service associated with the request;

identifying one or more communication parameters to be changed in the communication service register;

determining changes to be made in the one or more communication parameters; and

providing the changes to the communication service register such that it updates the one or more communication parameters.

16. The method of claim 15 wherein the step of identifying the communication service register is accomplished in response to reading a communication service register identification code contained within the request.

17. The method of claim 15 wherein the step of identifying the communication service register is accomplished by the protocol interface.

18. The method of claim 15 wherein the step of identifying one or more communication parameters to be changed is accomplished by the communication service register.

19. A protocol interface comprising:

a port that is operably coupled to receive a request;

a processing device operably coupled to the port;

a communication service register port operably coupled to the processing device; and

memory for storing programming instructions that, when read by the processing device, cause the processing device to:

identify a communication service register storing communication parameters associated with a particular type of communication service associated with the request;

identify one or more communication parameters to be changed in the communication service register;

determine changes to be made in the one or more communication parameters; and

provide, via the communication service register port, the changes to the communication service register, such that it updates the one or more communication parameters.